



For he to-day that sheds his Blood with me
Shall be my Brother

Henry V.

This small token brings you the thanks of the
Army Blood Transfusion Service for the
contribution which you have made to-day to
the medical services of the war.

ARMY BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

Charles Thomas



BLOOD TRANSFUSION IN DESERT WARFARE

Broadcast from the Front Line during the Battle of Alamein

By Godfrey Talbot

(B.B.C. Observer with the 8th Army).

“I’ve just come out of a dressing station. It’s partly dug in underground. There’s been a raid just now. The doctors are doing wonderful work in these places. In one tiny underground cave in the sandy rock there were four men having blood transfusions . . . it’s one of the many places where this is being done at various parts of the desert front.

“It’s no exaggeration to say that *blood transfusion on a big scale is one of the biggest and finest medical service developments in this war*. It’s a thoroughly well-organized business, and it’s saving very many lives on the battlefield itself, as well as at base hospitals—lives which would have been lost from loss of blood.

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WHERE YOUR BLOOD GOES

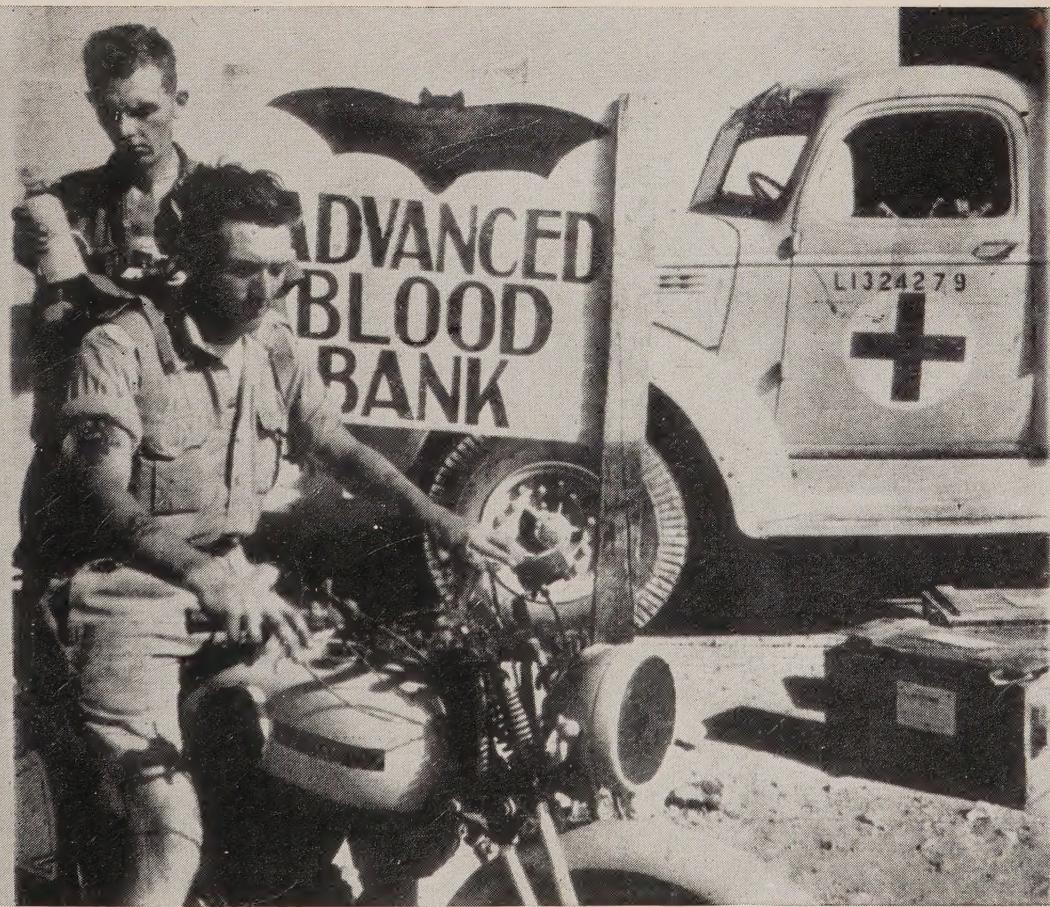


1 ICELAND & FAROE ISLES	5 MALTA	9 MADAGASCAR & MAURITIUS
2 NORTH AFRICA & GIBRALTAR	6 IRAN & IRAQ	10 EAST AFRICA
3 MIDDLE EAST & EGYPT	7 ADEN	11 WEST INDIES
4 PALESTINE & CYPRUS	8 INDIA	12 WEST AFRICA & ST. HELENA



(BRITISH OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH: CROWN COPYRIGHT.)

PLATE 2: WOUNDED MAN BEING TRANSFERRED FROM TANK TO AMBULANCE WHICH WILL TAKE HIM TO A CASUALTY CLEARING STATION.



(BRITISH OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH BY RADIO FROM CAIRO : CROWN COPYRIGHT.)

PLATE 3: DESPATCH RIDER COLLECTING PLASMA (DRIED BLOOD FLUID) FROM ADVANCED BLOOD BANK CLOSE TO THE FRONT LINE. THIS PLASMA WILL BE USED AT THE CASUALTY CLEARING STATION.



(WAR OFFICE PHOTOGRAPH : CROWN COPYRIGHT.)

PLATE 4: A TRANSFUSION IN PROGRESS AT A CASUALTY CLEARING STATION. THIS TRANSFUSION SAVED THE LIFE OF A BRITISH SOLDIER WHO WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED IN THE TANK BATTLE WITH ROMMEL'S AFRIKA KORPS.

“That’s one of the reasons why the doctors are right up in the forward areas—skilled surgeons in khaki who give blood back quickly to the wounded man, so that right at this first stage of his journey back out of the line, he is able to stand up to the journey and is in better shape for the next stage of medical or surgical attention further back.

“There has been accumulated in the Middle East a good reserve of human blood, and the supply continues. The blood is bottled and stored some of it’s dried—to be drawn on as required, and now in this desert fighting there are advance stores in the desert. I saw one yesterday at the side of a track. It had a sign up—a board with a vampire bat painted on it—and below, it said ‘Advanced Blood Bank.’ Inside the lorry there they had refrigerators with large bottles of blood and bottles of the pale white plasma—most of it in dried form. Ambulance drivers kept coming into this blood bank with requisitions from dressing stations further forward, and each was off within two minutes with the precious life-saving bottles.

“Back again they went—back to the front-line areas, where in little tents and ambulances doctors give that blood to the wounded men who need it.

"Often a wounded man will get more of the blood further back, say at a casualty clearing station also. He'll get it perhaps both before and after an operation. I saw one man who'd had twelve pints. He was going to live—he never would have done, without such a service."

(The text of this Broadcast is the copyright of the British Broadcasting Corporation.)

This description, by an observer on the spot, will convince you of the value of the work done by blood donors in this country, which has earned the gratitude of the men whose lives are being saved daily on all fronts.

Without the valuable contribution which you have just given, this life-saving work, described by Godfrey Talbot, could not be carried on.

We feel sure that you have some friends who would also like to help. You can tell them how they, like you, can save lives. If you will fill in their names on the post-card attached, their blood too can be sent on its life-saving journey.

Thank you !

THE FOLLOWING FRIENDS OF MINE ARE WILLING TO ENROL
AS BLOOD DONORS :—

1. NAME

FULL
POSTAL
ADDRESS

2. NAME

FULL
POSTAL
ADDRESS

3. NAME

FULL
POSTAL
ADDRESS

(SIGNED)

ADDRESS

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.



ARMY BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE,

DONOR REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT,

SOUTHMEAD HOSPITAL,

BRISTOL.

DETACH HERE